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Attorney Docket No. 14649

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Currently Amended) A book rack and pencil tray combination comprising:

(a) a book rack having a front opening and a bottom wall, the bottom wall having at least one opening; and

(b) a pencil case attached to the book rack, a portion of the pencil case being disposed in a generally horizontal plane at an elevation lower than the bottom wall of the book rack, wherein a portion of the pencil case has a bottom wall, a pair of opposed side walls, a front wall and a rear wall, and is sized to retain one or more of a ruler or a protractor in a linear manner within the walls of the pencil case.

2. (Original) The combination of claim 1 further comprising a pencil case attachment plate attached to the pencil case such that a portion of the book rack is sandwiched between the pencil case and the pencil case attachment plate.

3. (Original) The combination of claim 1 wherein the pencil case defines a pair of separate compartments, a lower compartment and an upper compartment, and wherein the lower compartment is disposed outside the front opening of the book rack.

4. (Original) The combination of claim 3 wherein the bottom wall of the book rack is disposed in a generally horizontal first plane and the lower compartment of the pencil case is disposed in a second generally horizontal plane, the second plane being disposed at an elevation below the first plane.

5. (Currently Amended) A desk comprising:

(a) a desk top having a top surface and a bottom surface;

(b) a support structure for supporting the desk top at an elevation above floor level;

(c) a book rack having a front opening and a bottom wall, the bottom wall having at

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least one opening; and

(d) a pencil case attached to the book rack, a portion of the pencil case being disposed in a generally horizontal plane at an elevation lower than the bottom wall of the book rack, wherein a portion of the pencil case has a bottom wall, a pair of opposed side walls, a front wall and a rear wall, and is sized to retain one or more of a ruler or a protractor in a linear manner within the walls of the pencil case.

6. (Original) The book rack and pencil tray of claim 5 further comprising a pencil case attachment plate attached to the pencil case such that a portion of the book rack is sandwiched between the pencil case and the pencil case attachment plate.

7. (Original) The combination of claim 5 wherein the pencil case defines a pair of separate compartments, a lower compartment and an upper compartment, and wherein the lower compartment is disposed outside the front opening of the book rack.

8. (Original) The combination of claim 7 wherein the bottom wall of the book rack is disposed in a generally horizontal first plane and the lower compartment of the pencil case is disposed in a second generally horizontal plane, the second plane being disposed at an elevation below the first plane.

9. (Currently Amended) A book rack and pencil tray combination comprising:

(a) a wire mesh book rack having a bottom wall and a front opening;

(b) a pencil case having a bottom wall, a pair of opposed side walls, a front wall and a rear wall, and a portion being sized to retain one or more of a ruler or a protractor in a linear manner within the walls of the pencil case, and a portion of the pencil case being disposed in a generally horizontal plane at an elevation lower than the bottom wall of the book rack; and

(c) a pencil case attachment plate attached to the bottom wall of the pencil case such

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that a portion of the bottom wall of the book rack is sandwiched between the pencil case attachment plate and the bottom wall of the pencil case.

10. (Original) The combination of claim 9 wherein the pencil case defines a pair of separate compartments, a lower compartment and an upper compartment, and wherein the lower compartment is disposed outside the front opening of the book rack.

11. (Original) The combination of claim 10 wherein the bottom wall of the book rack is disposed in a generally horizontal first plane and the lower compartment of the pencil case is disposed in a second generally horizontal plane, the second plane being disposed at an elevation below the first plane.

12. (Currently Amended) A desk comprising:

- (a) a desk top having a top surface and a bottom surface;
- (b) a support structure for supporting the desk top at an elevation above floor level;
- (c) a wire mesh book rack having a bottom wall and a front opening;
- (d) a pencil case having a bottom wall, a pair of opposed side walls, a front wall and a rear wall, a portion being sized to retain one or more of a ruler or a protractor in a linear manner within the walls of the pencil case, and a portion of the pencil case being disposed in a generally horizontal plane at an elevation lower than the bottom wall of the book rack; and
- (e) a pencil case attachment plate attached to the bottom wall of the pencil case such that a portion of the bottom wall of the book rack is sandwiched between the pencil case attachment plate and the bottom wall of the pencil case.

13. (Original) The combination of claim 12 wherein the pencil case defines a pair of separate compartments, a lower compartment and an upper compartment, and wherein the lower compartment is disposed outside the front opening of the book rack.

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14. (Original) The combination of claim 13 wherein the bottom wall of the book rack is disposed in a generally horizontal first plane and the lower compartment of the pencil case is disposed in a second generally horizontal plane, the second plane being disposed at an elevation below the first plane.

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